

Appln No. 10/760,274
Amdt. Dated February 6, 2006
Response to Office Action of November 22, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated November 22, 2005. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

The description has been amended at page 8 to address typographical errors.

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to delete the phrase 'of a type' objected to be the Examiner. However, with regard to the Examiner's suggestion to insert 'located' after the word 'to' in line 2 of both claims 1 and 6, we respectfully submit that this would introduce a grammatical error that would detract from the clarity of these claims.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

35 U.S.C. §102 - Claims 1 to 6

Claims 1 to 6 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,347,864 to Silverbrook et al. The Applicant disagrees.

The compact print engine described in the '864 reference is designed for incorporation into small electronic devices such as cameras, PDA's and mobile phones. The print engine 500 is made up of a print engine assembly 502 and a printhead cartridge 504. The print engine assembly 502 is installed within the device. The cartridge 504 can be inserted and replaced periodically. The cartridge has an air filter 740 and an outlet leading to the air pump 522. The outlet of the air pump feeds the conduit 518 which is in fluid communication with the printhead sub assembly 508. The printhead sub assembly 508 is a component of the print engine assembly 502 which remains installed in the device (see col. 2, ll. 36 and 37).

The '864 reference does not describe a cartridge with a pagewidth printhead as required by amended claims 1 and 6. The present invention is suited to SOHO printer designs where the printhead is replaced with the cartridge to maintain a high print quality. Over time, as

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nozzles, clog, de-prime or otherwise fail, the printer may not be able to compensate by using nozzle redundancy etc. The Applicant's relatively inexpensive pagewidth printhead IC's can be incorporated into the cartridge, and therefore replaced regularly. This is not taught or suggested by '864.

As the cited reference does not teach a printer cradle for accepting a cartridge with a pagewidth printhead and an air inlet, it fails to anticipate any of claims 1 to 6.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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